

**THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMER COMPOSITION**

5           The present invention relates to a soft themoplastic elastomer composition that is  
free of thermoplastic resin that can be utilized in manufacturing shoe sole inserts, seals,  
gaskets, wheels, and that can be overmolded on a hard substrate, such as a metal or a  
thermoplastic resin, for grips or handles on various household items. The present  
invention more specifically discloses a thermoplastic elastomer composition that is made  
10 by a process comprising: (1) mixing (A) a block copolymer comprising a first polymeric  
block that is comprised of repeat units that are derived from a vinyl aromatic monomer  
and a second block that is comprised of repeat units that are derived from a conjugated  
diolefin monomer, wherein the repeat units in the second block are hydrogenated, and  
wherein the repeat units in the second block are elastomeric in nature, (B) a crosslinkable  
15 elastomer, and (C) an oil, to produce an un-crosslinked three component blend; and (2)  
dynamically crosslinking the crosslinkable elastomer in the un-crosslinked three  
component blend during a thermo-mechanical mixing step; wherein the thermoplastic  
elastomer composition is void of thermoplastic resins.